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CLAIMS

1        1.     A method for establishing the concealment order of macroblocks in a rectangular  
2 array of having opposed sides, comprising the step of:

3                concealing the macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values by progressing in a  
4 direction of one of the larger of the sides of the array.

1        2.     The method according to claim 1 comprising the step of progressively concealing  
2 in opposite directions towards each of the two larger sides of the array until reaching a central  
3 portion of the array.

1        3.     A method of concealing macroblocks in a rectangular array of N rows and M  
2 columns where N is larger than M, comprising the step of:  
3                concealing macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values by progressing  
4 horizontally by rows in at least one of a top-down and bottom up directions.

1        4.     The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by  
2 rows simultaneously in a top-down direction and in a bottom-up direction.

1        5.     The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by  
2 rows exclusively in a top-down direction.

1        6.     The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by  
2 rows exclusively in a bottom-up direction.

1        7.     The method according to claim 3 wherein macroblocks in each row are scanned in  
2 one of a left-to-right direction and a right-to-left direction.

1        8.     The method according to claim 7 where the macroblocks in successive rows are  
2 alternately scanned from left-to-right and right-to-left.

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1           9.    The method according to claim 3 wherein the macroblocks in all rows are  
2 concealed from left-to-right.

1           10.   The method according to claim 3 wherein the macroblocks in all rows are  
2 concealed from right-to-left.

1           11.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in even  
2 rows from left-to-right.

1           12.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in odd rows  
2 from right-to-left.

1           13.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in even  
2 rows from right-to-left.

1           14.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in odd rows  
2 from left-to-right.

1           15.   The method according to claim 3 further comprising the steps of:  
2           arranging a non-rectangular array of macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values  
3           into at least two rectangular sub-arrays of macroblocks prior to undertaking concealment, and  
4           concealing each of sub-arrays independently.